

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1-8, 10-17, and 19-35 are pending, in which claims 1, 7, 10, 11, 16, 19, 20, 22, 24, 26 and 27 currently amended, and claims 28-35 are newly presented. No new matter is introduced.

The final Office Action mailed June 17, 2004 rejected claims 1-7, 10-16, 19-22 and 24-27 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on *Wang et al.* (US 6,636,505) in view of *Gidwani* (US 6,640,239).

The Specification, 2nd paragraph (lines 8-16) of page 12, has been amended to correct an obvious error.

In the interest of advancing prosecution, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 10, 19, 24 and 26. Specifically, independent claims 1, 10 and 26 recite “the point-to-point communication sessions corresponding respectively to a plurality of service providers” and “wherein individual accounting information is processed for each of the plurality of end user stations based upon a selected one of the service providers.” Claim 19 recites “a point-to-point communication session corresponding to one of a plurality of service providers” and “wherein individual accounting information is processed for each of the plurality of end user stations based upon a selected one of the service providers.” Claim 24 recites “wherein the point-to-point communication sessions corresponding respectively to a plurality of service providers” and “wherein individual accounting information is processed for each of the plurality of hosts based upon a selected one of the service providers.”

Applicants believe these features are absent from the applied references of *Wang et al.* and *Gidwani*, alone or in combination, and thus, respectfully request withdrawal of the obviousness rejection. Dependent claims 2-8, 11-17, 20-23, 25 and 27 are allowable for at least

the same reasons as their corresponding independent claims 1, 10, 19, 24 and 26 and are separately patentable on their own merits.

Turning now to the newly presented claims 28 and 35, independent claim 28 is directed to a method for providing data services from a plurality of service providers and recites “establishing a point-to-point communication session corresponding to one of the service providers; and selectively establishing another point-to-point communication session corresponding to another one of the service providers, wherein the point-to-point communication sessions are established over a common Point-to-Point Protocol over Ethernet (PPPoE) connection.” New independent claim 31 is drawn to a system for providing data services from a plurality of service providers, and recites “a line terminating equipment configured to establish a plurality of point-to-point communication sessions corresponding respectively to the service providers, wherein the point-to-point communication sessions are established over a common Point-to-Point Protocol over Ethernet (PPPoE) connection, wherein a user dynamically selects one of the service providers and communicates over the corresponding point-to-point communication session, each of the point-to-point communication sessions generating separate accounting information.” Further, new independent claim 33 recites “displaying a plurality of options for data services corresponding to the service providers; receiving a selection input for one of the service providers; initiating establishment of a point-to-point communication session corresponding to a selected one of the service providers; receiving another selection input for another one of the service providers; and initiating another point-to-point communication session corresponding to another selected one of the service providers, wherein the point-to-point communication sessions are established over a common Point-to-Point Protocol over Ethernet (PPPoE) connection.” The features of these new independents are not found in the *Wang et al.*

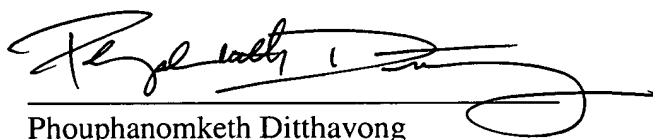
and *Gidwani* combination. Accordingly, claims 28, 31 and 33 should be allowable, along with claims 29-30, 32, 34 and 35, depending correspondingly therefrom.

Therefore, the present application, as amended, overcomes the objections and rejections of record and is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested. If any unresolved issues remain, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney at (703) 425-8508 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date


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